Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 AID-05 /088 W

R 111130Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7537

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

CONFIDENTIAL PRETORIA 2327

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PINT, PINS, SF

SUBJECT: PRESS CONFIRMATION OF DETAINEE ESCAPES

REF: PRETORIA 2018 (NOTAL)

1. MAY 9 SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS REPORTED APPEARANCE OF JOHANNESBURG PRISON ESCAPEES PASCALL MOLOI AND PATRICK MABINDA IN DAR ES SALAAM. THE TWO TERRORISM ACT DETAINEES ALLEGEDLY LEFT SOUTH AFRICA VIA SWAZILAND AFTER ESCAPE FROM JOHN FORSTER SQUARE PRISON IN APRIL (SEE REFTEL).

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2. DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN INSTITUTE TOLD EMBOFF THAT FORMER PRISONERS WERE ASSISTED BY THREE WHITE AND FOUR BLACK WARDENS WHO SMUGGLED HACKSAW BLADES INTO PRISON AND ALLOWED THEM EXTRA CLOTHING TO MAKE ROPE FOR ESCAPE OUT OF WINDOW. AUTHORITIES AT JOHN FORSTER SQUARE PRISON REPORTEDLY TRANSFERRED FOUR WHITE AND SIX BLACK WARDENS TO OTHER PRISONS AFTER INCIDENT.

3. COMMENT: REPORT HAS QUASHED RUMORS OF SAG COVERUP
OF DEATHS OF THESE ESCAPEES AND EVOKED SURPRISE THAT
SECURITY DETAINEES COULD ESCAPE CUSTODY OF SECURITY-CONSCIOUS SAG.
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Message Attributes

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Subject: PRESS CONFIRMATION OF DETAINEE ESCAPES TAGS: PINT, PINS, SF, (MOLOI, PASCALL), (MABINDA, PATRICK)

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